GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:332
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2007
PROMOTION OF HANDICRAFTS INDUSTRY
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the handicrafts industry has been adversely affected by the appreciating rupee;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts has requested the Union Government to increase duty drawback rates for the industry;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for promotion of handicrafts industry in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. The export of handicrafts and carpet has decreased by 12.90% during April-Oct. 2007 in comparison to the corresponding period of 2006-07. During April-Oct. 2006, the export of handicrafts and carpet was to the tune of Rs. 9584.72 crores which has now reached Rs. 8348.22 crores during April-Oct. 2007-08.

(c)&(d): Yes Sir. Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts made a request to the Government on behalf of Exporters Association for considering enhancement of duty drawback rate on handicrafts exports in percentage terms.

(e): The steps taken for promoting export of handicrafts and to enhance its share in the international market include: participation in exhibitions/fairs, organising Indian Handicrafts & Gifts Fair twice a year, organising thematic exhibitions, development of innovative value added products through Product Development Programme, organising programmes for packaging and export procedure, etc.